

State, tribal, and local historic resources have been protected. This successful program shows what can be done when governments at each level are willing to work together for a common cause, the protection and preservation of our culture and our history.

And sometimes new nations forget, do not pay that much attention to preserving their culture and preserving their history, and when we travel abroad and we see the preservation of the culture and the history in so many other countries, we realize how important it is; and when we come back, we make sure that we preserve ours for future generations.

And H.R. 834 would extend the authorization of funds for the Historic Preservation Fund and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation through fiscal year 2005. We wholeheartedly support extending this authorization. H.R. 834 goes on to make two other minor changes to the National Historic Preservation Act as well. These changes clarify the applicability of historic preservation laws to the Architect of the Capitol and codify the executive order dealing with consideration by federal agencies to using historic properties.

In addition, the committee adopted an amendment to the bill that contained the suggested changes of the General Services Administration to the section of the bill dealing with federal agency use of historic properties. While the language embodied in these suggested changes was somewhat convoluted, we did not oppose the amendment. During committee consideration we offered, but subsequently withdrew, an amendment to provide for a study by the Secretary of the Interior of the preservation and restoration needs of historic buildings and structures located on the campuses of historic Hispanic-serving institutions of higher learning.

Within the area I represent is the University of Puerto Rico, the largest Hispanic-serving institution of higher learning in the country. The university has significant historic resources that would benefit along with the other educational institutions from such an assessment. In lieu of the amendment, the Committee on Resources has included a report language on the bill expressing support for the study and strongly encouraging the Secretary of the Interior to undertake such a study using existing authorities.

The Department of the Interior has experienced in doing such studies and having completed in several years a very similar study of historically black colleges and universities. Such a study will provide Congress and the public with useful information in which to assess the historic preservation needs of these educational institutions.

Mr. Speaker, we support H.R. 834, as amended, and would encourage our colleagues to do likewise.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, with the appointment of Alan M. Hantman as the new Architect of the Capitol, Congress has a chance to begin a new era and build a partnership with the citizens of Washington, DC. The land that houses the nation's congressional offices, the Botanical Garden and several of the administrative offices is under the stewardship of the Architect of the Capitol. In the past, Congress has exempted the Architect of the Capitol from meeting the same building, design, and community notification guidelines it requires other builders in the city and nation to meet. These exemptions have not worked to the public's benefit nor have they encouraged Congress to set the example of being good partners with the surrounding community.

In the early 1960's Congress spent over \$100 million to build the Rayburn House Office Building. It was designed by the Architect of the Capitol of the time, J. George Stewart. The building sits on 50 acres and is considered a waste of precious space. Only 15 percent of the building is used for hearing rooms and offices. Forty-two percent is used for parking. The appearance and design of the building since its inception has been considered architecturally void and barely functional with its hallways that end without warning.

Again, in 1997 the Architect of the Capitol, without consulting the public, demolished an historic row house built in 1890 to construct a \$2 million day care center. The location was bitterly opposed by residents and local groups. The Architect demolished the historic house and constructed a new structure with what appeared to be of very little coordination with the people who lived in the neighborhood.

Fortunately, Representative Joel Hefley's bill H.R. 834 takes steps to curb the Architect of the Capitol's influence on the surrounding neighborhoods. I am hopeful the mistakes of the past will not be repeated due to the building guidelines in this bill and other efforts currently in process by my office. The Architect of the Capitol needs to update their services by including the public in their decision making process and by following building guidelines established by Congress.

In addition, I would like to add that H.R. 834 successfully addresses the codification of Executive Order 12072 and 13006. These Executive Orders require federal buildings to locate in downtown areas. Over the last several decades the federal government has been drawing investment away from our cities and helping the elements of urban sprawl by building outside of our downtown. Sprawling development leads directly to traffic congestion, decreased air quality, loss of farm and forest land, decreased water quality and the need for costly new infrastructure. As land development continues to press further and further out, many of our older suburbs have begun to deteriorate as well.

I am pleased that there appears to be one agency within the federal government that is restructuring its programs so it can take the lead in making our communities more livable. Earlier this year, the General Service Administration established the Center for Urban Development and Livability. G.S.A. is the nation's largest real estate organization, and the 3,000 location, planning, design and construction decisions that they make every year have a tremendous impact on urban vitality in the more than 1,600 communities around the country where they control federal property. The es-

tablishment of the Center for Urban Development and Livability has been created to take advantage of opportunities to leverage federal real estate actions in ways that bolster community efforts to encourage smart growth, economic vitality and cultural vibrancy.

I am hopeful that Congress and the new Architect of the Capitol will follow G.S.A.'s example and modify programs to actively seek the public's opinion with their building and renovations to make Capitol Hill and downtown D.C. more economically viable and to help create a more livable community.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill to reauthorize the National Historic Preservation Fund, H.R. 834. The National Historic Preservation Fund is a part of the National Park Service that preserves America's significant historic and archeological sites. The Preservation Fund helps to preserve our national history.

As we approach the end of this century, it is fitting that we seek to preserve our past. This bill will ensure that we preserve the legacy of this century for the generations to come.

The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) assists states, territories, Indian Tribes, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation in their efforts to protect and preserve properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The preservation services include American Battlefields, Historic Buildings, National Historic Landmarks, Historic Landmarks, and Tribal Preservation. Each of these initiatives preserves an important aspect of American culture and history.

For example, the Tribal Preservation Program works with Native American tribes, Alaska Native Groups, Native Hawaiians and other national organizations to protect resources that are important to Native Americans. This program seeks to preserve language, traditions, religion, objects and sites especially because of the massive destruction Native American cultures have experienced in the past 500 years.

The National Historic Landmarks Assistance Initiative preserves the nation's most historic and archeological places. There are now more than 2,200 sites that have been designated by the Secretary of the Interior as places of national significance.

The funding we provide to these programs and initiatives are necessary to preserving and protecting our nation's irreplaceable heritage. Therefore, I support this reauthorization bill and I urge my colleagues to vote in support of America's heritage.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I do not believe I have other requests for time.

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CALVERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 834, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.